

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

[0066] Bilateral placement of dowels 500 is preferred as shown in FIG. 6. Each of dowels 500 are illustrated as having a width less than approximately one-half of the width of the adjacent vertebral body. This configuration provides a substantial quantity of bone graft available for the fusion. The dual bilateral cortical dowels 500 result in a significant area of cortical bone for load bearing and long-term incorporation via creeping substitution, while giving substantial area for placement of osteogenic autogenous bone which will facilitate boney bridging across the disc space. The dual dowel placement with facing chambers 530 results in an elongated compartment 540 that can be filled with an osteogenic composition M. This provides for the placement of a significant amount of osteogenic material as well as a large support area of cortical bone for load bearing.